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Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development: high-level dialogue for the implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development

Organization and procedural matters of the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development

Note by the Secretary-General

I. Introduction

1. The arrangements set out below have been formulated on the basis of the following:

(a) General Assembly resolution 57/250 of 20 December 2002, on the High-level Dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership;

(b) Letter dated 7 May 2003 from the President of the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session addressed to permanent representatives of all Member States to the United Nations on the detailed organization of the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development;

(c) Letter dated 6 October 2003 from the President of the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session addressed to permanent representatives of all Member States to the United Nations on the format and structure of round tables and the informal interactive dialogue.

II. Organizational arrangements

A. Dates and venue

2. The High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development, comprising a series of plenary and informal meetings and interactive round tables with the participation of the relevant stakeholders, will take place on Wednesday and Thursday, 29 and 30

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October 2003, at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The plenary meetings and the informal interactive dialogue will be held in the General Assembly Hall and/or the Trusteeship Council Chamber. Interactive round tables will be held in the Economic and Social Council Chamber and Conference Rooms 5, 6 and 7. Arrangements are being made so that round-table proceedings may be viewed in Conference Room 1, where special monitors and/or screens will be set up to provide live video and audio broadcast. All scheduled meetings will be announced in the *Journal of the United Nations*.

B. Overall theme

3. The overall theme of the High-level Dialogue will be "The Monterrey Consensus: status of implementation and tasks ahead".

C. Schedule of meetings and organization of work

4. The High-level Dialogue will consist of an innovative series of plenary and informal meetings to constitute a policy dialogue on the overall theme stated above and eight interactive round tables with the participation of the relevant stakeholders. The proposed programme of work is contained in the annex to the present note.

D. Plenary meetings

5. The plenary meeting on the morning of Wednesday, 29 October, is expected to be of short duration, to allow for the formal opening of the High-level Dialogue by the President of the General Assembly. In addition, the Assembly will be able to adopt the proposed programme of work and to take up any remaining organizational matters.

6. The next plenary meeting will be held on the morning of Thursday, 30 October, to hear statements by the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the Economic and Social Council, the heads of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme as Chairman of the United Nations Development Group, as well as one representative of the regional development banks and one representative of the regional commissions. Each oral statement will be limited to five minutes, with the understanding that more extensive statements may be circulated in writing.

7. At the plenary meeting to be held in the afternoon of Thursday, 30 October, immediately following the conclusion of the informal interactive dialogue, the President of the General Assembly will make a concluding statement and will formally close the High-level Dialogue.

E. Informal interactive dialogue

8. The informal interactive dialogue, chaired by the President of the General Assembly, will commence on the morning of Thursday, 30 October, immediately

following the adjournment of the plenary meeting, and will continue in the afternoon of Thursday, 30 October.

9. The informal meeting will constitute a policy dialogue with the participation of all relevant stakeholders on the status of implementation of the results of the International Conference on Financing for Development and the collaborative tasks ahead. To that end, it is proposed that the dialogue follow, to the extent feasible, the structure of the Monterrey Consensus and that of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of and follow-up to commitments and agreements made at the International Conference on Financing for Development (A/58/216). Delegations will also be encouraged to inform the meeting of national activities undertaken in that regard. Co-Chairs of the round tables and other participants may wish to refer to outcomes of interactive discussions on the preceding day.

10. To provide for a free-flowing, interactive discussion, no list of speakers will be established. The President of the General Assembly will be able to call upon speakers, including representatives of accredited intergovernmental organizations, civil society and the business sector, in the order in which they signify their desire to speak, on the understanding that the principle of precedence will be strictly applied, allowing participation at the ministerial level. All participants will be invited to speak from their seats and will be strongly encouraged to avoid reading from written statements.

11. At the discretion of the Chair, representatives of regional and international intergovernmental organs that participated in the Monterrey Conference will be able to intervene. One representative of civil society and one representative of the business sector, selected by accredited participants among themselves, will be able to report on the informal hearings scheduled for 28 October.

F. Ministerial round tables

12. On Wednesday, 29 October, eight multi-stakeholder round tables, divided into two sessions, will be convened as follows.

13. The first set of four round tables will be held on the morning of Wednesday, 29 October, immediately following the adjournment of the opening plenary meeting. The theme of round tables 1 and 2 will be "Regional dimensions of the implementation of the results of the International Conference on Financing for Development". Round tables 3 and 4 will address the theme "Coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems in support of development". The heads of the African Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank have been invited to serve as co-Chairs together with five co-Chairs designated by the regional groups.

14. In the afternoon of Wednesday, 29 October, the second set of four multi-stakeholder round tables will be held. The theme of round tables 5 and 6 will be "The link between the progress in the implementation of the agreements and commitments reached at the International Conference on Financing for Development and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, in particular those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration". Round tables 7 and 8 will focus on the topic "The link between the progress in the implementation of the agreements and commitments reached at the International Conference on

Financing for Development and the promotion of sustainable development, sustained economic growth and the eradication of poverty with a view to achieving an equitable global economic system". The heads of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization have been invited to serve as co-Chairs together with five co-Chairs designated by the regional groups.

15. If any of the above-mentioned heads of institutional stakeholders are not available to co-chair the round tables, the President of the General Assembly may designate heads of other relevant intergovernmental organizations as alternative co-chairs.

III. Participation of States

16. The High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development, including the plenary and informal meetings, will be open to participation by Member States, the Holy See, in its capacity as Observer State, and Palestine, in its capacity as observer, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

17. The composition of the round tables will be subject to the principle of equitable geographical distribution of seats among the regional groups. Thus, each round table may have a maximum of seven participants from African States, seven from Asian States, three from Eastern European States, five from Latin American and Caribbean States and four from Western European and other States. Member States that are not members of any of the regional groups may participate in the round tables. The Holy See, in its capacity as Observer State, and Palestine, in its capacity as observer, may also participate in the round tables.

18. The list of participants in the round tables will be established on a first-come, first-served basis, with the understanding that the total number of Member States participating in each round table shall not exceed 24.

19. Member States are encouraged to be represented in the round tables at the ministerial level. Each minister or head of delegation attending the round tables may be accompanied by one adviser.

IV. Participation of institutional stakeholders

20. The High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development, including the plenary and informal meetings, will be open to participation by all intergovernmental organizations and other entities having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly (see A/INF/57/4).

21. Other relevant intergovernmental organizations that were accredited to the International Conference on Financing for Development may participate in the informal interactive dialogue and the multi-stakeholder round tables. Each round table will include five representatives of observers, entities of the United Nations system and intergovernmental organizations other than observers. Their distribution in the round tables will follow the practice used at the International Conference on Financing for Development.

22. On 15 September 2003, the General Assembly decided to accredit to the High-level Dialogue the following intergovernmental organizations other than observers: the Eurasian Economic Community; the Latin American Reserve Fund and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States.

V. Engagement of civil society and the business sector

23. Greater participation of non-governmental organizations and business sector entities is sought in the interactive round tables and informal meetings of the plenary of the High-level Dialogue in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly. Accreditation will be open to (a) all non-governmental organizations that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and (b) all non-governmental organizations and business sector entities that were accredited to the International Conference on Financing for Development.

24. In addition, the General Assembly decided, on 15 September 2003, to accredit to the High-level Dialogue the following business entities/organizations: the Financial Services Volunteer Corps, the African Business Round Table, the Securities Industry Association, Kleiman International Consultants, Inc., Pateli Zambia, Ltd., and Dexia Credit Local.

25. Each round table will include three representatives of civil society and three representatives of the private sector. Their distribution in the round tables will follow the practice used at the International Conference on Financing for Development.

VI. Documentation

A. Pre-session documentation

26. The substantive documentation of the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development will consist of the following reports:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of and follow-up to commitments and agreements made at the International Conference on Financing for Development (A/58/216);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration (A/58/323);

(c) Summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the special high-level meeting of the Council with the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization (A/58/77-E/2003/62);

(d) Summary of the hearings and dialogue of the Economic and Social Council with members of civil society (A/58/77/Add.1-E/2003/62/Add.1);

(e) Summary of the hearings and dialogue of the Economic and Social Council with business interlocutors (A/58/77/Add.2-E/2003/62/Add.2);

(f) Report of the Economic and Social Council for 2003 (A/58/3 (Parts I and II)).

B. In-session documentation

27. Co-Chairs of the round tables will be requested to submit to the President of the General Assembly summaries of their round tables. The summary by the President of the General Assembly of the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development, including summaries of round tables and hearings of civil society and business interlocutors, will be issued as an official document of the General Assembly, and will constitute an important input for a resolution of the General Assembly on the implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development.

C. Inputs from all relevant stakeholders

28. Background information for the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development, including inputs received from all relevant stakeholders in the financing for development process, will be posted and updated, on a regular basis, on the web site of the Financing for Development Office of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, at www.un.org/esa/ffd.

VII. Hearings of civil society and business interlocutors

29. The High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development will be preceded, on Tuesday, 28 October, by a half-day hearing of members of civil society accredited to the High-level Dialogue and a half-day hearing of similarly accredited business interlocutors. The hearings will take place in Conference Room 4. The President of the General Assembly will chair both public hearings. The programme and documentation of both hearings will be posted on the above-mentioned Financing for Development web site. Summaries of hearings will be included in the summary by the President of the General Assembly of the High-level Dialogue.

VIII. Media coverage

30. A special information kit is being prepared by the United Nations Department of Public Information for journalists covering the High-level Dialogue. In addition, the documents counter in the media area will provide all Dialogue documents, as well as press releases on its plenary meetings, round tables and other events. They will also be made available electronically on the Financing for Development web site.

31. The plenary and informal meetings of the whole, as well as press conferences, will be broadcast live in the media area. Arrangements are being made so that the round-table proceedings may be also viewed in the overflow area (Conference Room 1) and via closed-circuit television.

32. A programme of special media briefings and press conferences will be announced.

IX. Side events

33. A series of special events, including briefings and panel discussions on issues related to financing for development, is being organized by entities of the United Nations system and accredited non-governmental organizations for the participants in the High-level Dialogue. The calendar of those events will be made available at the Dialogue site and will be posted on the Financing for Development web site.

Annex

Proposed organization of work of the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development, at United Nations Headquarters, 29 and 30 October 2003

Wednesday, 29 October

Plenary meeting

10 a.m.-10.30 a.m.	Opening of the High-level Dialogue
	Adoption of the programme of work and other organizational matters

Ministerial round tables

10.30 a.m.-1.30 p.m.	*Round tables 1 and 2*
	Two simultaneous multi-stakeholder round tables on the theme "Regional dimensions of the implementation of the results of the International Conference on Financing for Development"
	Round tables 3 and 4
	Two simultaneous multi-stakeholder round tables on the theme "Coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems in support of development"
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	*Round tables 5 and 6*
	Two simultaneous multi-stakeholder round tables on the theme "The link between the progress in the implementation of the agreements and commitments reached at the International Conference on Financing for Development and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, in particular those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration"
	Round tables 7 and 8
	Two simultaneous multi-stakeholder round tables on the theme "The link between the progress in the implementation of the agreements and commitments reached at the International Conference on Financing for Development and the promotion of

	sustainable development, sustained economic growth and the eradication of poverty with a view to achieving an equitable global economic system"
Thursday, 30 October	
Plenary meeting	
9.30 a.m.-10.30 a.m.	Statements by the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the Economic and Social Council, the heads of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme as Chairman of the United Nations Development Group, as well as one representative of the regional development banks and one representative of the regional commissions
Informal interactive dialogue	
10.30 a.m.-1.30 p.m.	Policy dialogue with the participation of all relevant stakeholders on the overall theme "Monterrey Consensus: status of implementation and tasks ahead"
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	Continuation of the policy dialogue
Plenary meeting	
6 p.m.-6.15 p.m.	Concluding statement by the President of the General Assembly Closing of the High-level Dialogue